

Joy Brewer

From: Lindsey Marcum <lindseymarcum@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 2:48 PM
To: Joy Brewer
Subject: HS 4425 and 4426

To whom it may concern:

I ATTENDED the hearing yesterday morning and although I couldn't stay for the afternoon session, I did watch it online. I am in SUPPORT of HB 4425 and 4426. What struck me most about the hearing was the inability of the committee to stay on topic. There were a few committee members that seemed to understand what the bills actually said, but most seemed to be so full of emotion, fear and misinformation about vaccines that they just couldn't get over that. It was mentioned that there were hundreds of administrative rules, while true, those rules should never be in conflict with the law! This is about over reach of government, not vaccines. We have waivers either way, one way just goes around the state law and legislators should be concerned about any rule, organization, etc that goes outside the law! That is why we hire you guys.

I do think it is ridiculous that I have to go to the health dept so often for a religious waiver. I am licensed clinical social worker who holds a masters degree from Columbia University. I also have a vaccine injured child. There is nothing in an education session (and I've had to go to a few now) that covers benefits and risks. It is all scare tactics. Most recently it changed to setting me an appt time where I literally walk in, sign the form at the desk with the secretary and leave (Wayne Co). I'm not sure that was what was intended either? Previously they asked all sorts of questions for lots of info that they typed into a computer. I would love to know what database my child's information is now being held in, but that wasn't disclosed to me. However I had to give the info to get the waiver. I am very concerned that my daughter is on a waitlist for a few different preschools next year. If they accept her, I have literally a few days to accept before they move on. Well to accept, she has to have all paperwork done, including her waiver. Since the health. dept only accepts appts on 1 day a week at this time and they have limited times, we may end up missing a preschool placement for her and I will be furious!

In closing, my child recently had chicken pox in a local charter school. The school was forced to send out a letter to the entire school, unlike when a child has strep throat and they send it out to the child's classroom only. His school is young 5s through 8th grade, so there were many many grades that my son would have had no contact with during any time of being contagious. I tried to ask if kids were excluded but was not offered this information. I find that interesting since it was my understanding that in order for a health department to do a thorough investigation they should talk to the family of the child with an infectious disease to make an educated decision on how to proceed. No contact was made with me by the health department or school.

I am supporting HB 4425 and 4426 because I support all laws as written. If I don't agree then I do what everyone else is required to do and lobby representatives to go through the proper legislative channels to change them. The health department should be no different. They still have tools in the current law against epidemics. Please take emotion out and support both bills.

Thank you,
Lindsey Marcum
Precinct Delegate Precinct 21

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone